poration in 1988-89 on account Of lapsed policies of the face value of Rs. 10,000j-and less; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to compensate the under privileged sections to the extent of their forfeited premia if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH); (a) and (b) According to policy conditions, a policy acquires paid-up value after at-least three years' premia are paid. In such casese life, insurance protection continues for a reduced sum assured along with vested bonuses.

The premia paid during the first three years of the policy are hardly sufficient to meet the first year expenses incurred by the Corporation to bring the policy into its books. Thus in case of the policies whereunder the sum assured is Rs. 10,000|- or less, the Life Insurance Corporation of India is not in a position to recover the cost of procurement if such a policy lapses before payment of atleast 3 years' premia i.e without acquiring paid-up value. Nothing therefore accrues to the Life Insurance Corporation of India on account of lapsation of small sum assured policies.

Total amount of remittances made by NRIs

28. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:
SHRI BHUVNESH CHATU-RVEDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of remit tances made by NRIs during each year from 1985 to 1990; and

(b) what reliefs are admissible to the NRIs for making remittances?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER TN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Trade with Pakistan

29. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the volume of trade bet ween India and Pakistan during 1989-90;

(b) what were the major items ex ported to Pakistan land those imported from that country during the nbove per iod?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER TN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASI PATEL): (a) The volume of trade between India and Pakistan during 1989-90 is provisionally placed at Rs. 105.18 crores.

(b) The major items exported to Pakistan during the period were Tea Tobacco manufactured, spices, Oil Meals, Iron Ore & Other Ores, Sports Goods, Basic Chemicals, Phtarmaceuftiicals, Engineering Goods etc. The main imports from Pakistan consisted of Fruits & Nuts (excluding Cashew nuts), Raw Wool, Oil Seeds, Crude Minerals, Metaliferrous Ores, Metaj Scrap, Coal, coke Briquittes, Textile Yarn, Fabrics, Made-up articles etc.

Offer of concession in custom duty to NRIs

30. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any proposal to offer concessions in customs duty to NRIs on the basis of the remittances made by them; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There is no proposal at present to offer concessions in customs duties to NRIs on the basis of remittances made by them.

(b) Does not arise.

Comparative earnings of Nationalised and Foreign banks operating in the Country

31. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA; Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is big difference in the earnings of the nationalis ed banks and of foreign banks operating in the country; I!

(b) if so, what are the comparative figures of earning of these banks during the last three years; and

(c) what steps are being taken to im prove the earnings of the nationalised banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND **THE** DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH); (a) and (b) The position of published profits earned by the foreign banks out of their Indian operations and the Indian nationalised banks during the last three years is as under:

	As on 31-12-87	As on 3-1989	As on 31-3-90
		(Rs. in crores)	
Published profits of foreign bank operating in India	66- 59	116-73	184-98
Published profits of Indian nationalised banks .	206- 96	254-16	243- 60

(*for 18 banks)

(c) The financial position and performance of the nationalised banks is reviewed by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India on an on going basis. Government and Reserve Bank of India have taken a series of measures to improve the performance and profitability of the public sector banks. These include augmentation of their capital, enhancement of service charges, rationalisation of interest rates structure and levy of commitment charges on unutilised portion of operating limits. Banks have also been advised to take measures to control expenditure on consumption of petrol, publicity etc., draw up action plans to improve their operation efficiency and take other measures to strengthen their viability and profitability by means of effective business planning and development. Banks have also been advised by Reserve Bank of India to initiate action against the officials found to be involved in cases of frauds.

Increase in Transport cost and prices of essential commodities due to hike in prices of petroleum products

32. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV SHANKER DAVE; Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that as a result of increase in the prices of petroleum products due to Gulf surcharge, there will be increase in the transportation cost and also in the prices of essential, commodities; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to curb the rise in prices of essential commodities and the transportation hike?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE; MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH); fa) and (b) Government are aware of the inflationary